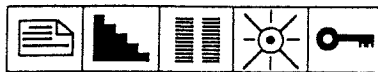


PERSONAL LIBRARY SOFTWARE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Personal Library Software and Illustra Announce Agreement to Provide Integrated Database-Controlled Text Search Capabilities

Rockville Md.--July 11, 1995 --An agreement announced today between Personal Library Software (PLS) and Illustra Information Technologies, Inc. will provide major publishing houses and other corporate customers with the ability to search and manage vast numbers of documents along with complex, alphanumeric data in a single, integrated repository -- all using industry-standard structured query language (SQL) language. PLS, the leading text search tool company, and Illustra, the leader in object-relational database management systems, will jointly develop and market the industry's most advanced system for managing information of any kind on public and proprietary networks, including the Internet and World Wide Web.

A Solution To One Of The Long-Standing Challenges In Information Management:

"The successful integration of text and database management capabilities has been one of computing's holy grails for over 30 years," said Matt Koll, president of PLS. "We believe this new partnership will finally attain this goal."

Up until now the task of accessing stored documents has been unwieldy or impossible because the technology to access them once they are stored has been limited and clumsy -- often requiring the use of multiple databases. The marriage of Illustra's integrated database engine to manage the whole process and PLS's fully intelligent text search capabilities will allow users to conduct completely integrated and databased text searches.

"Illustra's expertise is in databases -- not text search," said Dick Williams, president and chief executive officer of Illustra. "Our agreement with PLS is an ideal example of how Illustra's flexible architecture lets us partner with 'best-of-breed' solutions providers to benefit customers by helping them run their businesses more efficiently and effectively."

Illustra's unique object-relational database management system (ORDBMS) architecture brings together the best of both relational and object database technology. It extends the widely accepted relational database model, enabling users to store, manage and analyze advanced information types such as audio, video, and images in a single database with text and numbers, using industry-standard SQL. This integration is made possible by the

addition of DataBlades (tm) modules that "plug-in" to the Illustra Server(tm) extending the database's ability to handle and integrate ANY data type in one complete system. The Illustra suite of software is commercially available to license. It is ideally suited for business applications involving the management of multiple kinds of complex and alphanumeric -- e.g., financial services, multimedia asset management, digital media distribution, earth sciences and government/intelligence markets. For example, NaviSoft, a subsidiary of America Online, embeds Illustra's technology in the NaviServer portion of its on-line publishing products.

Intelligent Search Capabilities:

PLS is the leading supplier of search software to the on-line and World Wide Web publishing community, including such customers as America Online, Prodigy, Dow Jones, Time Inc. and Apple Computer. PLS is known for its powerful yet easy-to-use features that help users find relevant information quickly. For example, with the natural language capabilities of the system, users can search with phrases or words they use in everyday conversation rather than having to adhere to a proscribed list of key words. Built-in relevance ranking allows all results from a distributed search to be merged and displayed according to their likely relevance, precluding a need to "second-guess" the system.

With the dynamic concept searching feature, the system compensates for omissions and lapses in human memory. It takes a word, phrase or query and automatically finds words that are conceptually related, thereby calling up related information that is highly relevant but that the user didn't know to ask about.

Fully Integrated Information Management:

The combination of SQL and full-text search capability opens up a whole new way of looking at document management. Now full text data can be combined with transactional data to allow the creation of internal or external document distribution systems. Because Illustra supports rules and alerters, users can now add intelligent workflow to their systems. For example, with PLS and Illustra's combined expertise, a company can automate the creation of new "standard operating procedures" as well as automate the distribution of those procedures by developing rules for who supplies, who edits, who approves and who is notified of new or changing content. Illustra's support for "versioning" adds the ability to search the same document over time and follow how it has changed. This feature is especially in applications such as product specification documents. Now product developers (or support or repair personnel) can track the changes a product makes throughout its lifecycle without any extra coding. By adding Illustra's Web DataBlade these documents can readily be accessed across most networks around the world, including secured private networks or the Internet. Example applications might include a catalog of products tied directly to internal inventory systems, allowing that catalog to change "dynamically" with the actual product lines.

Headquartered in Rockville, Md., Personal Library Software (<http://www.pls.com>) provides a suite of intelligent text-retrieval products and services for on-line, CD-ROM and Internet publishing applications. The PLS search engine is at the core of products and

services from leading information companies such as Prodigy, Financial Times Information Services, Grolier, NewsNet, and Congressional Quarterly.

Headquartered in Oakland, Calif., Illustra Information Technologies, Inc., the Database for Cyberspace (<http://www.illustra.com>), is the leading worldwide supplier of media asset management systems and tools for applications in multimedia and entertainment, digital media distribution and financial services. The company's flagship product, the Illustra Server allows users to store, manage, and analyze complex multimedia data such as audio, video and images in a single database, along with traditional text and numbers using industry-standard SQL. The company was founded in 1992.

Illustra(tm) is a trademark of Illustra Information Technologies, Inc. DataBlade(tm) is a registered trademark of Illustra Information Technologies, Inc. All other products are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.